

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-16 remain in this application.

The examiner has acknowledged that claims 3 and 5 are directed to allowable subject matter.

In response to the Office Action of July 13, 2005 Applicant requests re-examination and reconsideration of this application for patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 132.

Rejections under 35 USC 102(b)

Claims 1, 3-9, 12-15 and 16 stand rejected as anticipated by Mellum. Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the relationship between the base plate and the enclosure by reciting that the auxiliary engine and the generator are connected to a base plate and the base plate is connected to the floor of the enclosure. The addition of a base plate adds rigidity to the alignment of the engine and the generator reducing vibration and wear and tear on the generator bearings and belt thereby prolonging operational life. Also, the base plate permits the use of a thinner material for the floor of the enclosure.

Claim 13 has been amended to specify the relationship between the floor of the enclosure and the vertical walls of the enclosure rather than a relation with the floor and the frame of the vehicle. As recited, the floor of the box or enclosure is removable from the

vertical walls. This permits easy and quick removal of the entire unit for replacement or maintenance. This also permits making the removable floor of thicker material than the remainder of the enclosure.

For a reference to anticipate any claim it must show or teach every feature recited in the rejected claim. The Mellum patent does not teach a base plate connecting the auxiliary engine to the generator and the base plate connected to the floor of the enclosure. The Mellum patent shows a conventional arrangement of an engine mounted directly to the floor of an enclosure with the bolts connected to the oil pan 30 with the generator adjustably connected to the engine by a curved generator bracket (which is not numbered). The generator is not connected to the enclosure at all but only to the engine.

Fig. 2A of Mellum clearly shows the generator belt running off the engine crankshaft around the generator pulley and the fan pulley. The crankshaft is located directly above the oil pan 30 which means that the cylinder(s) is/are vertical to the floor of the enclosure. The location of the crankshaft is known because these engines are usually one cylinder and the oil system is not pressurized dictating a gravity return of the oil from the top of the engine to the oil pan. Therefore, Mellum does not show a cylinder parallel to the floor, as recited in the claims. There

is nothing inherent in the design that would place a cylinder of the Mellum engine parallel to the floor of the enclosure. To do so would require a complete re-design of the engine-generator unit. The claimed orientation of the engine is to reduce the vertical height of the unit resulting in a smaller enclosure which may be used as a step to enter the vehicle.

With regard to claim 13, Mellum does not show an engine generator unit fixed to the floor of the enclosure nor does the reference show a removable floor of the enclosure nor does the reference show a cylinder parallel to the floor.

The Mellum patent does not show the claimed structure nor does it disclose the functions produced by the missing structure. Therefore, Mellum does not anticipate the claims.

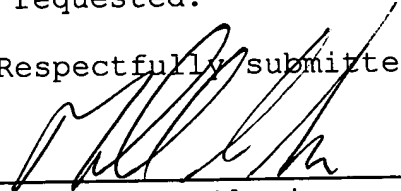
Rejections under 35 USC 103

Claims 2 and 14 stand rejected as obvious in view of Mellum and Higuchi. All the above deficiencies of the base reference are repeated here. Higuchi merely shows isolation mounts between the engine and the floor of an enclosure without adding anything more to the combination. Therefore, the combination of Mellum and Higuchi would not teach one of ordinary skill in the art to make or use an engine-generator set mounted on a base plate attached to the floor of an enclosure with one cylinder parallel to the floor of the enclosure.

SUMMARY

In light of the foregoing remarks and amendment to the claims, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner will now find the claims of the application allowable. Favorable reconsideration of the application is courteously requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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